



DFIRS NEWS

Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System

Volume 2, Issue 1

October 2001

DFIRS Program Manager Selected

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is pleased to announce the selection of Crystal Beach as the new DFIRS Program Manager. Crystal brings a varied business and military background to the SFM office. A Delaware native residing in Milford, Crystal is "looking forward to the challenge that DFIRS presents."

NFIRS

NFIRS 5.0 is a modified and improved National Fire Incident Reporting System which has been designed as a tool for fire departments to report and maintain computerized records of fires and other fire department incidents in a uniformed manner. NFIRS 5.0 was developed by the United States Fire Administration (USFA) in partnership with the National Fire Information Council (NFIC).

The New NFIRS 5.0 system, in addition to many code improvements, provides additional modules to meet the increasing diversity and demands of fire departments today. It has been designed to expand the collection of data beyond fires to include a full range of fire department activity on a national scale. Included is an expanded utility for users of the system at both the state and fire department levels. The recent addition of an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) module to the system along with the inclusion of Department Apparatus, Wildland and Personnel modules ensures greater usefulness of the system.

NFIRS 5.0 will enable the Fire Service to examine trends on a local, state and national level. The resulting information is used to help reduce the needless loss of life and property by fire throughout the United States.

Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System (DFIRS)

The NFIRS program has undergone many transformations and revisions. Today NFIRS offers a vastly improved incident

reporting system. With many of the past issues resolved, now is the perfect time for Delaware to implement NFIRS 5.0.

The fire departments within the State of Delaware cannot afford to miss out on the millions of dollars in federal funding that is tied to NFIRS reporting.

How Do Fire Departments Implement NFIRS 5.0?

1. The DFIRS Program Manager will be available at each county Chief's meetings in October to discuss DFIRS details.
2. Decide on fire departments reporting option if a reporting program is not currently in place.

Option 1 – USFA Software – Online **SOFTWARE COST**

~~///~~ Free

MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

~~///~~ Windows 95B
~~///~~ 1 GB Hard Drive
~~///~~ 56K Modem
~~///~~ Internet Access
~~///~~ 64 MB Memory
~~///~~ 120 Pentium Processor

Option 2 – USFA Software – Off Line **SOFTWARE COST**

~~///~~ Free

MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

~~///~~ Same as above plus;
~~///~~ Microsoft Access 97
~~///~~ 3 GB Hard Drive

Option 3 – Third Party Software **SOFTWARE COST**

~~///~~ Determined by the Vendor

MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

~~///~~ As required by the Vendor

FEMA AWARDS \$9.4 MILLION IN FIRE GRANTS...

(Release Date: September 24, 2001)

WASHINGTON - The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced today that 158 fire departments across the United States would receive \$9.4 million in grants in the tenth round of awards under the Assistance to Firefighters Program.


The funds in this round are to be used for personal protective equipment, fire fighting equipment, vehicles, training and wellness and fitness programs. More grants in these categories will be announced in coming weeks.

"Last year 102 firefighters died in the line of duty," said FEMA Director Joe M. Allbaugh. "These grants are designed to help reduce injuries and deaths and President Bush and I are pleased to help fire departments face the dangers of their job."

The total assistance provided to date has now reached \$82.2 million. FEMA will distribute \$100 million in grants through Sept. 30. Authorized last year by Congress, the grants will reach rural, urban and suburban fire departments.

A list of all grant recipients to date is posted on the USFA web site at www.usfa.fema.gov/grants. Future grant recipients will be listed as awards are made.

Congratulations Delaware Grant Recipients:


-  Wilmington Fire Department \$7,350.00
-  Wilmington Fire Department \$71,015.00

3. Obtain training for NFIRS 5.0 System

Option 1 – USFA Software


-  Free State Fire Marshal & NFIC sponsored training

Option 2 – Third Party Software

-  Training schedules and cost based on vendor

4. Implement NFIRS 5.0


Option 1 – USFA Software

-  DFIRS Program Manager assists FD with implementation.

Option 2 – Third Party Software

-  DFIRS Program Manager assists FD with data exports to USFA Software.

5. Maintain NFIRS 5.0

-  Provide accurate and timely incident information

For more information regarding the Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System (DFIRS), please contact Crystal Beach at 302-739-5665 or cbeach@state.de.us
